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No. 43

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KILDEE).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 11, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DANIEL T. KILDEE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

NEBRASKA CAREER PROGRAMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise to highlight several efforts in my Nebraska congressional district which prepare Nebraskans to join the workforce and encourage entrepreneurship.

I visited the New Heavy Equipment Operator Training program at the Hastings Campus of Central Community College. It provides both training and hands-on experience with heavy construction equipment.

Grand Island Public Schools actually has partnered with the Career Pathways Institute to offer courses on subjects ranging from business and marketing to human services and health science.

Arnold High School's only School House Graphic Products teaches students about technology, design, and business, with the opportunity to earn college credit through Mid-Plains Community College.

And Scottsbluff High School recently launched its career academies, including agriculture, business, and technical sciences.

These are just a few of the home-grown initiatives from across the State of Nebraska which are making a difference in the lives of Nebraskans, strengthening our workforce, and growing the economy.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KILDEE) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

Reverend Meg Peery McLaughlin, Burke Presbyterian Church, Burke, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, in You we live and move and have our being.

Amid these public servants, gathered to govern as they swore to do, we invoke Your presence, O God, greater

than we can ever grasp, and as near as the intake of our own breath.

Expose our stubborn bias that deprives our life. Reconstruct relationships to enliven joy in the work ahead. Ignite our integrity and right-size us in our britches. Refuse our apathy with an outpouring of Your hope. Untangle our pride and pain, allowing room for Your truth to creep in and guide our way.

We make this prayer resting in the promise that we belong to You, and thus to one another.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause one, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILLIAMS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

CONGRATULATING CARUTHERS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. COX of California asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Caruthers girls basketball team, our CIF Division V State Basketball Champions.

On Friday afternoon, despite playing a school with roughly four times the

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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enrollment, our Blue Raiders rolled to an impressive 62 to 38 victory over Ramona-Riverside.

Friday's victory is a testament that hard work, practice, and teamwork is a recipe for success in any arena.

Coach Almeida put it best when she said her girls are, "Winners by nature. They're fighters and tough and never give up."

I am proud to represent: Anna Marshall, Eshnoor Gasoj, Felicia Ramirez, Jacklyn Kulow, Kathleen Duran, Destiny Giles, Jennyfer Balino, Paige Sterling, Aileen Cortez, Elvis Ponce, Jaque Magana, Malia Ishii, Mikayla Duran, and Jasmine Torres.

I am excited to see their future victories and the success I know they will continue to have on the court and in life.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Blue Raiders, our Division V California State Basketball Champions.

RECOGNIZING USMC LANCE CORPORAL PLUNK

(Mr. WILLIAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize a member of the United States Marine Corps from the 25th District of Texas, Lance Corporal Alyssa Joy Plunk.

On December 20, 2018, a little over a year into her enlistment, the U.S. Marine Corps took notice of her impressive level of leadership and awarded her the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

During a training operation, she was tasked with transporting a number of people and cargo over 700 miles. Her review stated that her superior proficiency enabled her to negotiate challenging conditions without any incidents.

She was awarded for the professional achievement she demonstrated during this operation and for a job well done.

I think it goes without saying that the men and women who make up our Armed Forces are a unique bunch that embodies everything that is good about America.

They serve our country selflessly, and for that, I am eternally grateful.

I appreciate Lance Corporal Plunk's dedication to her country and am proud of all that she has already achieved in a short amount of time.

I am praying for her safety while she is deployed and look forward to her return.

God bless the United States Marine Corps.

In God We Trust.

THE ONGOING OPIOID CRISIS

(Mr. KATKO asked and was given permission to address the House for one minute.)

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the role of

fentanyl and other synthetic analogs in the ongoing opioid crisis facing our Nation.

Thousands of Americans die each year as a result of overdoses caused by these dangerous substances, which mimic the effects of street drugs, but are significantly more powerful and more dangerous.

During last week's Homeland Security hearing, I asked Secretary Nielsen about any recent significant seizures of fentanyl at America's borders. Secretary Nielsen's response was absolutely frightening, as she informed the committee that the amount of fentanyl seized by ICE in the last year alone was enough to kill every living American twice.

This statistic should trouble each and every one of my colleagues. Congress must take immediate action to ensure law enforcement has all the necessary tools to prevent illicit synthetic opioids from entering the country.

My bill last Congress, the Stop the Importation and Trafficking of Synthetic Analogues Act, would have addressed these issues, and I intend to reintroduce that bill in a similar legislative form in the coming months.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in the critical effort to combat substance abuse and save American lives.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by the Speaker on Friday, March 8, 2019:

S. 49, to designate the outstation of the Department of Veterans Affairs in North Ogden, Utah, as the Major Brent Taylor Vet Center Outstation.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1601

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. COX of California) at 4 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Mariel Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEMONSTRATION ACT OF 2019

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1122) to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1122

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Housing Choice Voucher Mobility Demonstration Act of 2019".

SEC. 2. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEMONSTRATION.

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (in this section referred to as the "Secretary") may carry out a mobility demonstration program to enable public housing agencies to administer housing choice voucher assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) in a manner designed to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

(b) SELECTION OF PHAS.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall establish requirements for public housing agencies to participate in the demonstration program under this section, which shall provide that the following public housing agencies may participate:

(A) Public housing agencies that together—

(i) serve areas with high concentrations of holders of rental assistance vouchers under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) in poor, low-opportunity neighborhoods; and

(ii) have an adequate number of moderately priced rental units in higher-opportunity areas.

(B) Planned consortia or partial consortia of public housing agencies that—

(i) include at least one agency with a high-performing Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program; and

(ii) will enable participating families to continue in such program if they relocate to the jurisdiction served by any other agency of the consortium.

(C) Planned consortia or partial consortia of public housing agencies that—

(i) serve jurisdictions within a single region;

(ii) include one or more small agencies; and

(iii) will consolidate mobility focused operations.

(D) Such other public housing agencies as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall establish competitive selection criteria for public housing agencies eligible under paragraph (1) to participate in the demonstration program under this section.